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PIR

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT

STATUS OF NORTH VIETNAMESE RAILROADS

25X1

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

25X1

Report No. 18
CIA/PIR 75062

DATE November 1966

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

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CIA IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION

PIR 75062

PREFACE

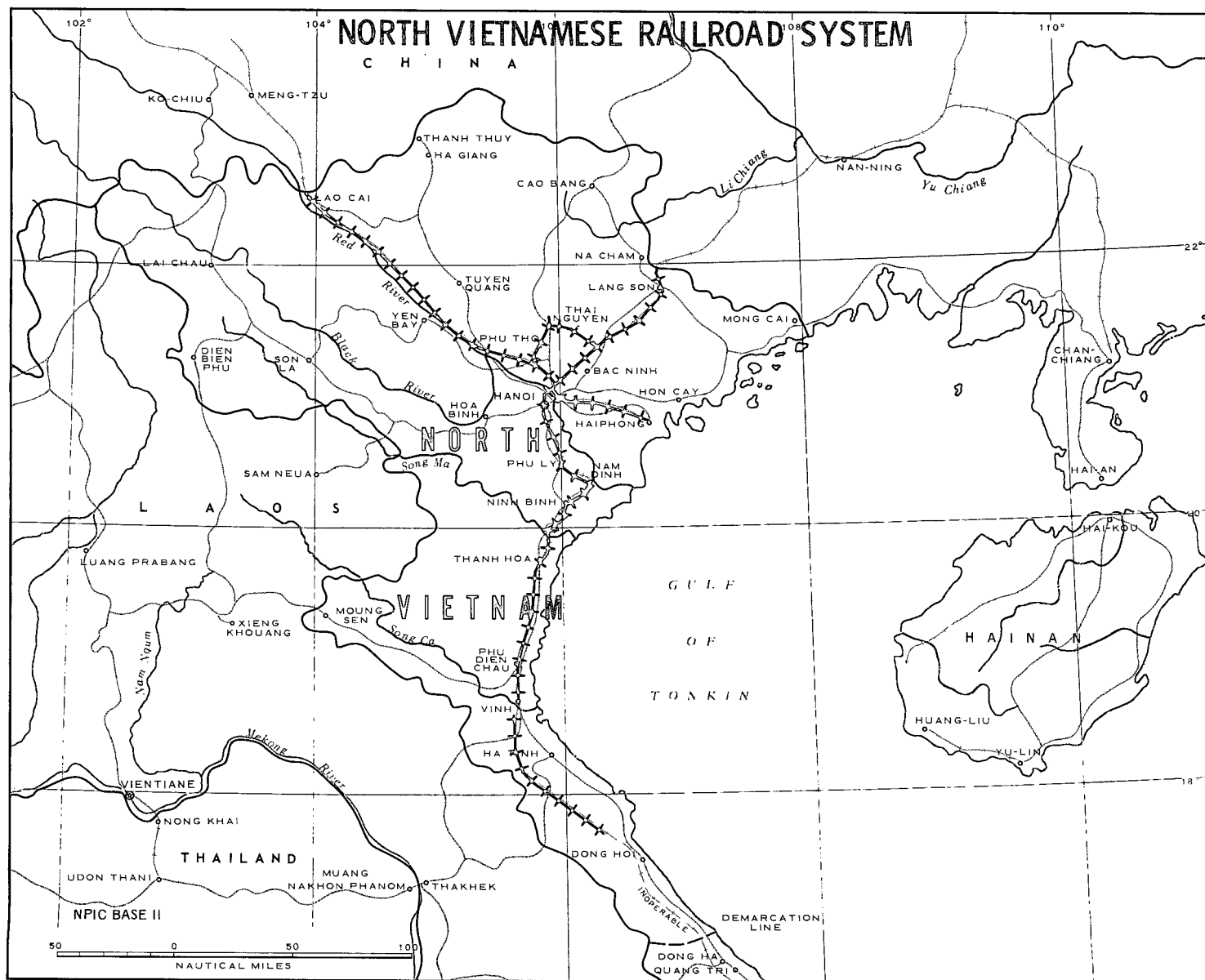
This report summarizes significant items of photo intelligence relating to the North Vietnamese railroad system which has been developed from available photography (received by the CIA Imagery Analysis Division) during the period indicated on the cover. This report is intended to provide a comprehensive view of the railroad system and does not necessarily reflect the most recent status changes as reported by pilots' reports or field photo intelligence cables.

The railroad system has been broken down into 5 major lines: the Hanoi/Lao Cai Line, the Hanoi/Dong Dang Line, the Hanoi/Haiphong Line, the Hanoi/Dong Hoi Line and the Thai Nguyen Line (Figure I). Annotated maps and photos are used to show the status of each line.

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SUMMARY

A marked improvement was noted in the condition of the Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line during this reporting period. Five bridges were observed newly repaired and straightening of the roadbed was noted in process in at least 10 places. Two bridge interdictions were noted, one of which (Viet Tri) can be by-passed by a serviceable ferry. Eight bridge interdictions were noted on the Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line, 3 of which were new within the reporting period. Two previously reported interdictions north of Vinh were repaired, and only 1 of the 3 new interdictions was found between Hanoi and Vinh, indicating that the North Vietnamese are still intent upon reopening this segment to through traffic. Those portions of the Hanoi/Dong Dang, Hanoi/Haiphong, and Thai Nguyen Rail Lines covered by interpretable photography were open to through traffic.

CONTENTS

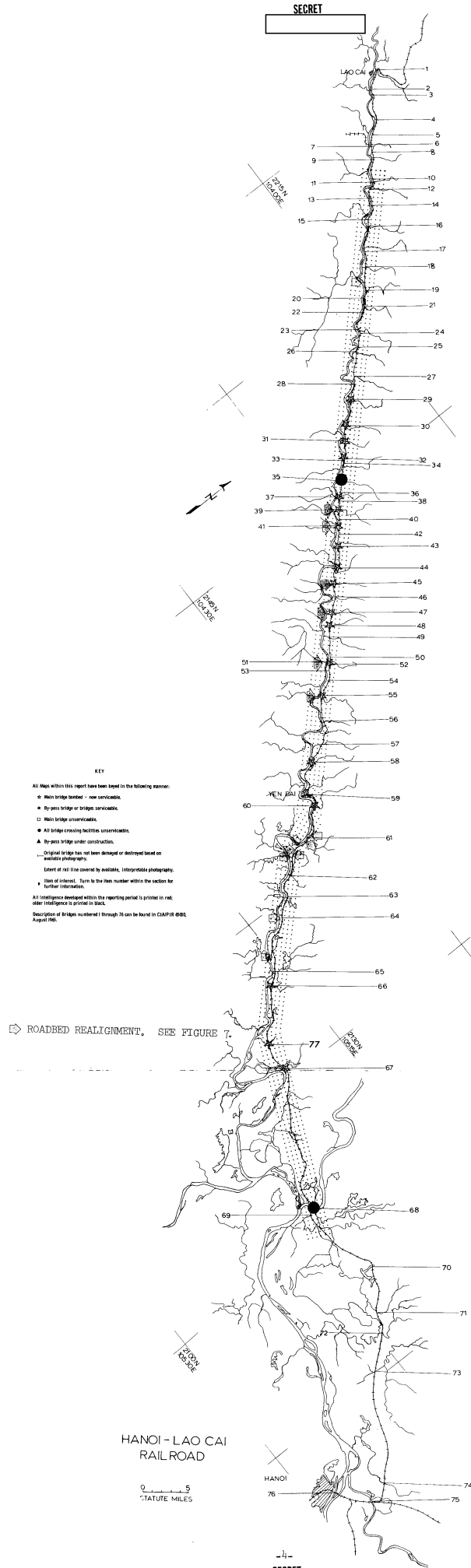
Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line	Page 4
Hanoi/Dong Dang Rail Line	13
Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line	14
Hanoi/Haiphong Rail Line	22
Thai Nguyen Rail Line	23

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FIGURE 2



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 1: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Viet Tri Railroad Yard

BE :

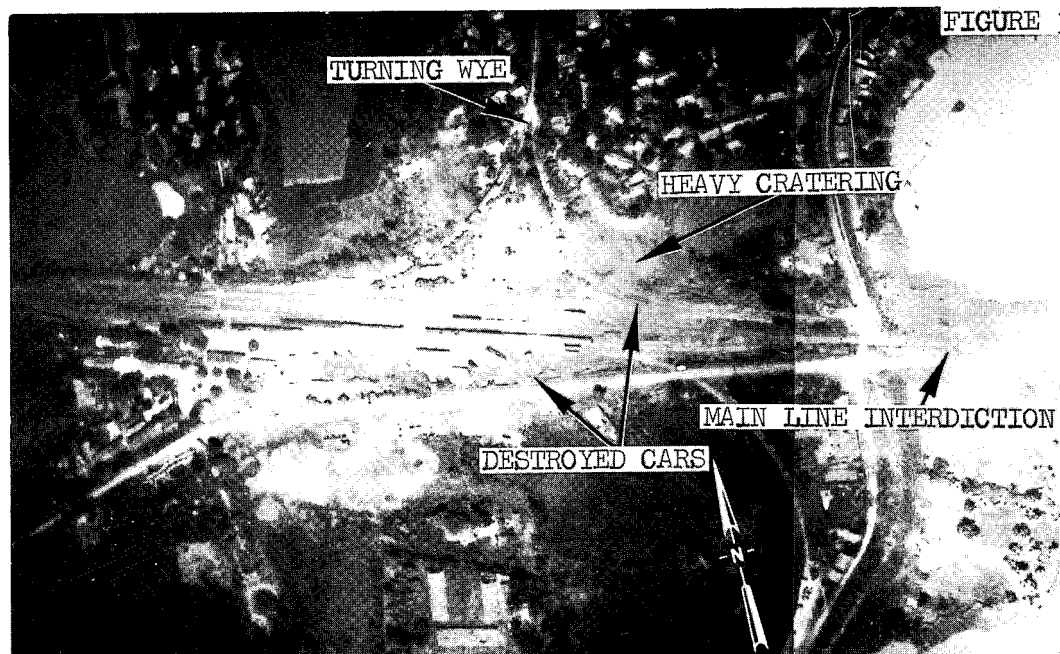
COORDINATES : 21 18N - 105 26E, WJ 454551

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-11

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The Viet Tri Railroad Yard has been moderately damaged by bombing and the turning wye has been heavily cratered. However, at least 3 tracks remain serviceable to through traffic. The main rail line has been interdicted between the yard and the Viet Tri Railroad Ferry (UTM WJ 462550). The rolling stock in the yard consists of 25 box cars, 3 of which are destroyed, and 9 gondola cars, 2 of which are destroyed.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 2: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Pho Hop RR. Bridge

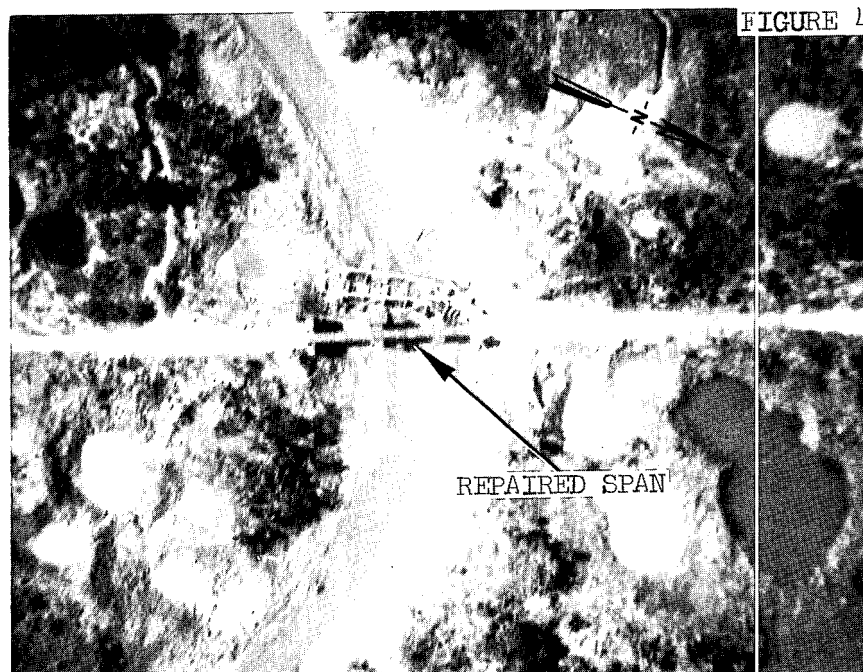
BE :

COORDINATES : 21 49N - 104 45E, VK 752127

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-10

The 3-span, deck-beam Pho Hop Railroad Bridge has been repaired and is serviceable.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 3: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Pho Chang RR. Bridge

BE :

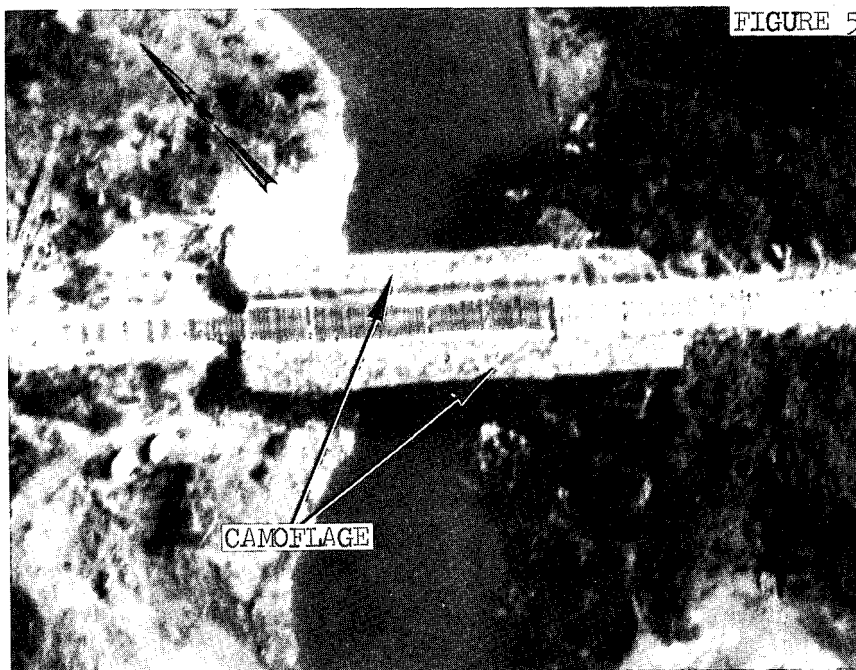
COORDINATES : 21 51N - 104 43E, VK 712172

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-10

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The single-span, half-through plate girder Pho Chang Railroad Bridge has been repaired and is serviceable to through traffic. Camouflaging material has been placed along the sides of the bridge to give the appearance of a causeway.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 4: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

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NAME : Lang Quach Ngoai RR. Bridge N

BE

:

COORDINATES : 21 54N - 104 39E, VK 647231

PHOTO REFERENCE

:

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-10

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The 3-span, deck-beam Lang Quach Ngoai Railroad Bridge N has been repaired and is serviceable.

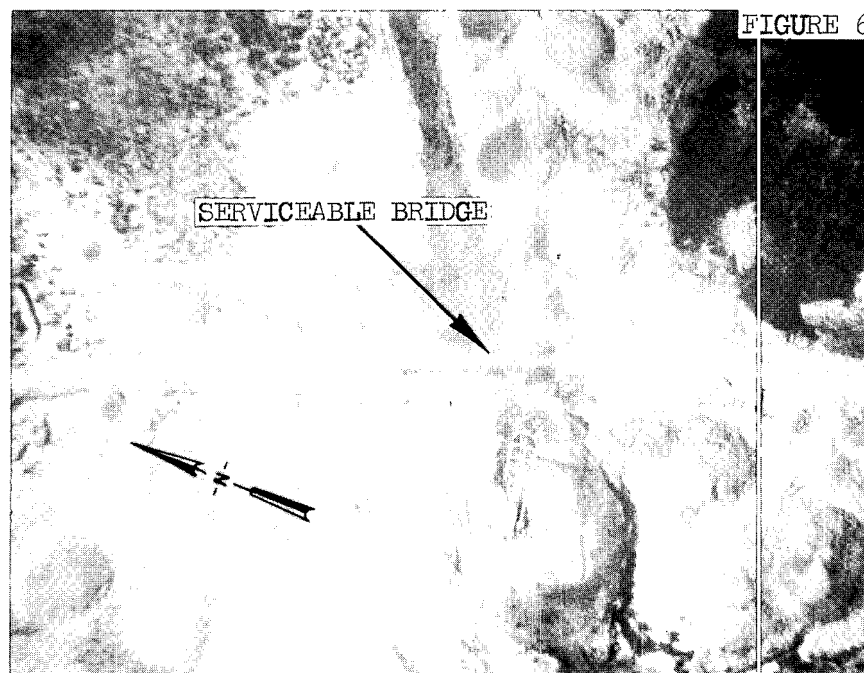


FIGURE 6

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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 5: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Khe Se RR. Bridge

BE :

COORDINATES : 22 00N - 104 33E, VK 538330

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-6

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The single span, half-through truss Khe Se Railroad Bridge has been repaired and is serviceable.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 6: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Lang Khay RR. Bridge

BE :

COORDINATES : 22 01N - 104 31E, VK 509359

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-6

The 3-span, deck-type Lang Khay Railroad Bridge has been repaired and is serviceable.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 7: Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line

NAME : Roadbed Realignment

BE : NA

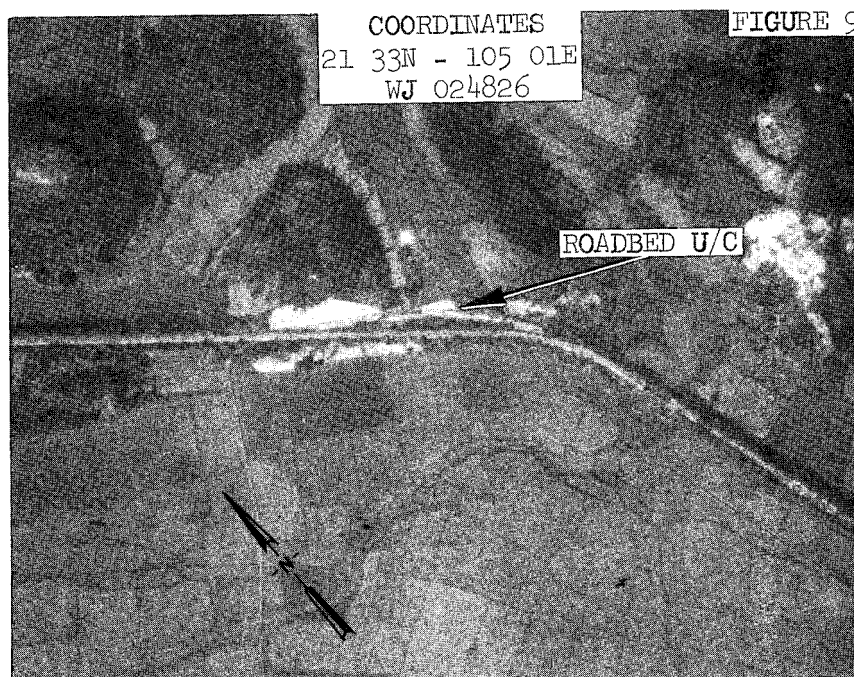
COORDINATES : Varies

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NF 48-6, 10, 11

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At least 10 instances of roadbed realignment activity were noted along the Hanoi/Lao Cai Rail Line including 8 areas located within a 15 mile segment SE of Yen Bai (21 41N - 104 53E). The degree of realignment varies from slight to extensive adjustments (i.e., lessening) of curvature (Figures 9, 10, 11).



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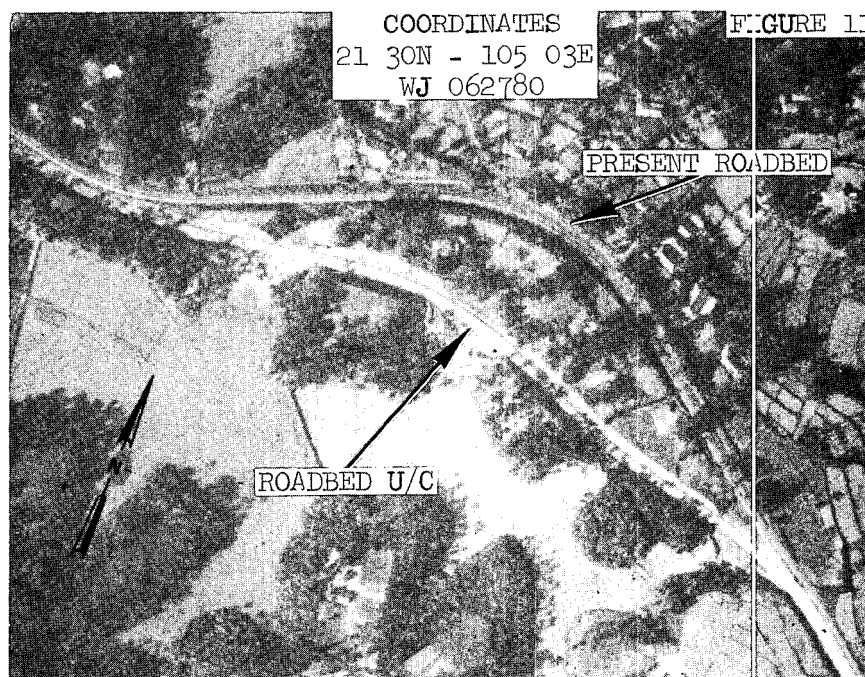
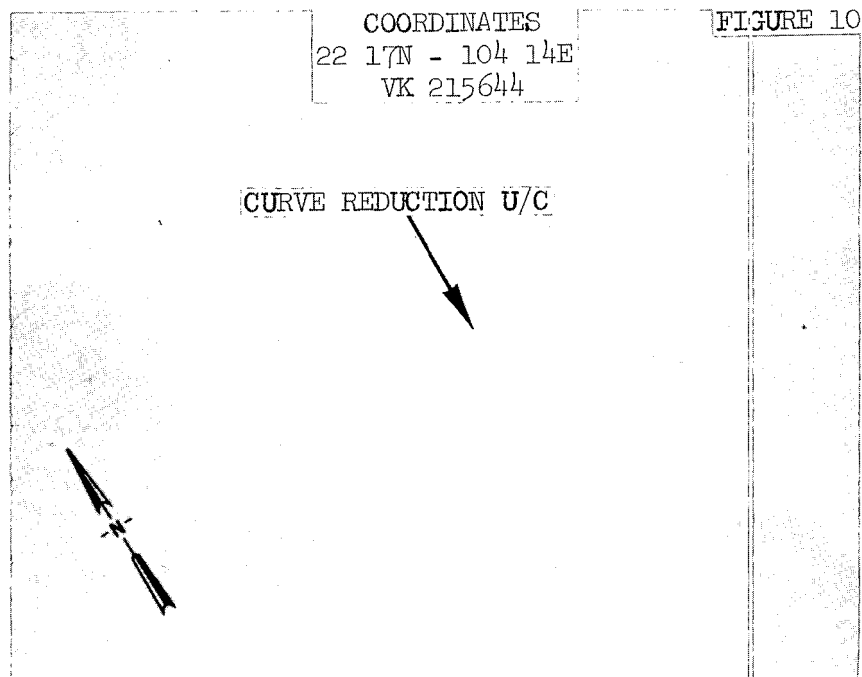
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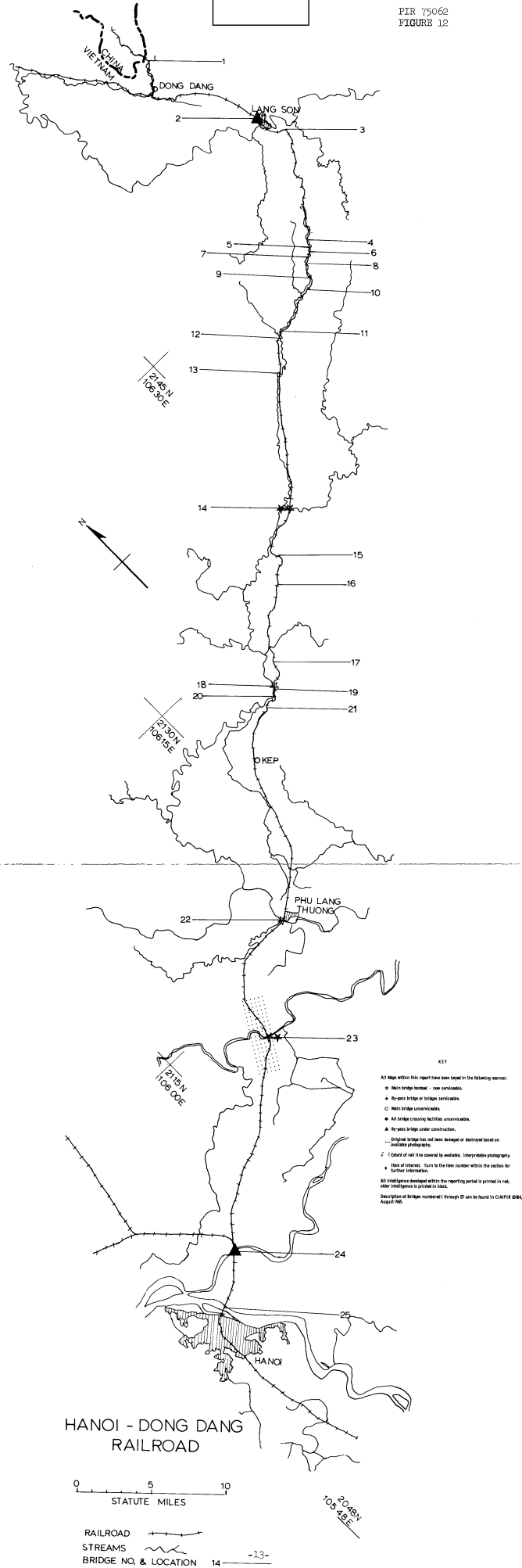
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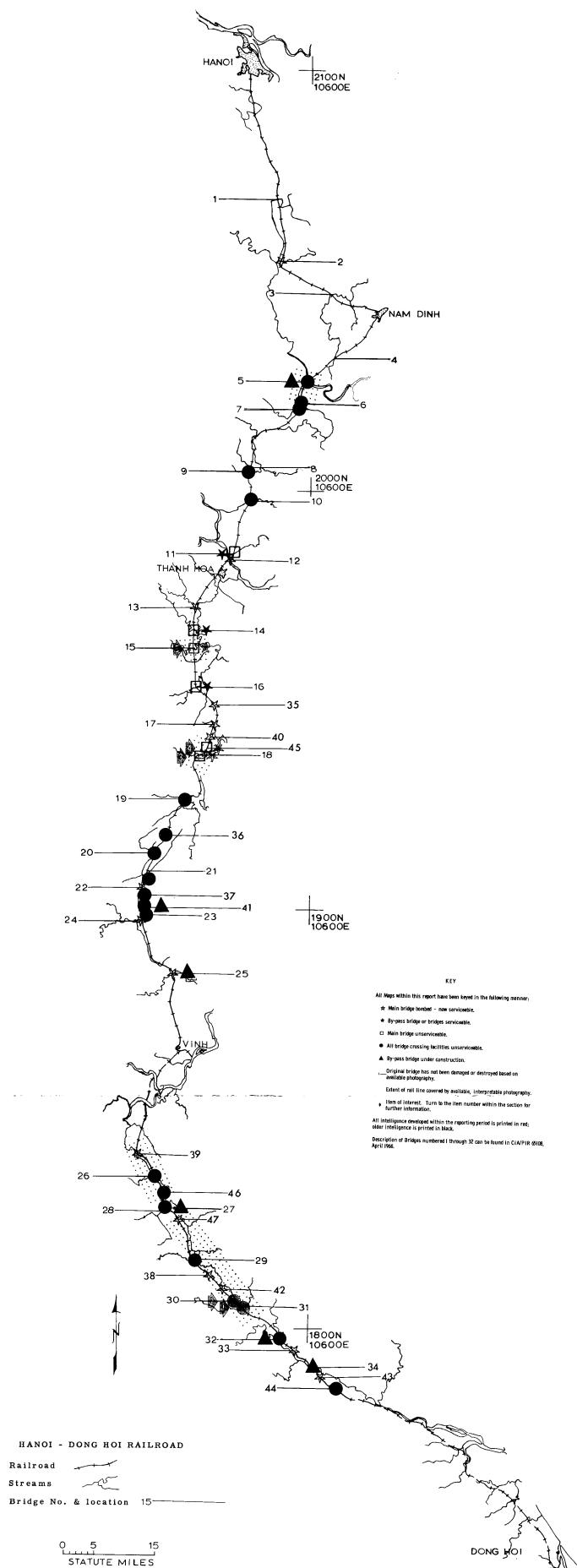
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FIGURE 13



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 1: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : Bai Duc Thon RR. By-pass Bridge

BE : NA

COORDINATES : 18 03N - 105 50E, WE 886964

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NE 48-7

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Four spans of the 8-span, deck-beam Bai Duc Thon Railroad By-pass Bridge have been destroyed. The main bridge is also unserviceable.



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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 2: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : La Khe Thon RR. By-pass Bridge

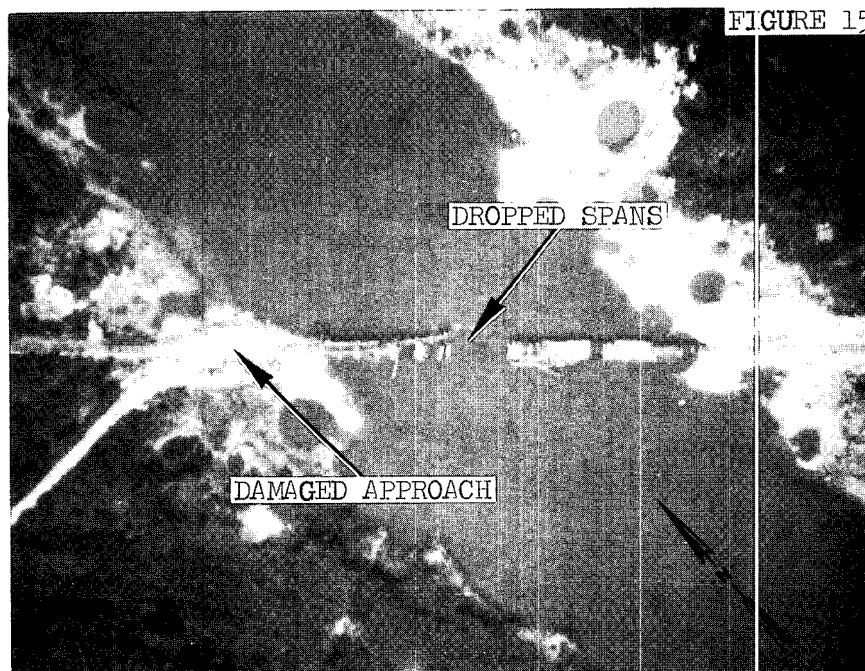
BE : NA

COORDINATES : 18 03N - 105 49E, WE 872973

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NE 48-7

The former La Khe Thon Highway Bridge (subsequently converted for railroad use) has been bombed and is unserviceable. Four spans of the deck-beam railroad by-pass bridge have been dropped. The main railroad bridge is also unserviceable.



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[REDACTED]

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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 3: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : Dia Thuy RR. By-pass Bridge NW

BE : [REDACTED]

COORDINATES : 19 23N - 105 43E, WG 756418

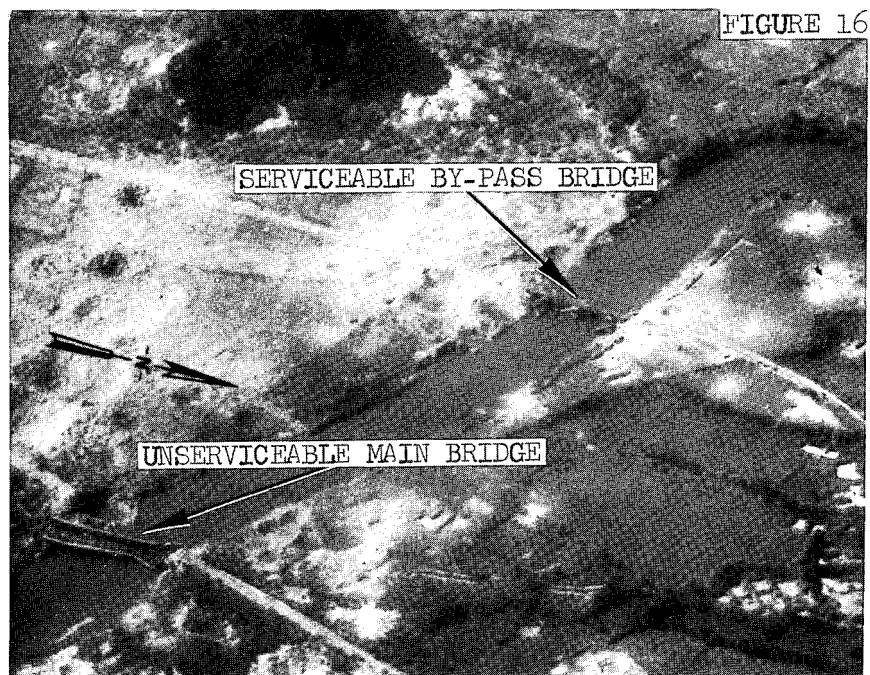
PHOTO REFERENCE : [REDACTED]

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MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NE 48-3

The multi-span, deck-beam Dia Thuy Railroad By-pass Bridge NW has been repaired and is serviceable. The main bridge [REDACTED] remains unserviceable.

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[REDACTED]

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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 4: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : Phu Cu RR. By-pass Bridge

BE : NA

COORDINATES : 19 22N - 105 45E, WG 780429

PHOTO REFERENCE :

MAP REFERENCE : JOG (A) 1501, NE 48-3

A railroad by-pass bridge has been constructed at Phu Cu. This 2-span, deck-beam bridge is presently serviceable. The main bridge [REDACTED] [REDACTED] remains unserviceable.

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FIGURE 17

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RAIL

SERVICEABLE BY-PASS BRIDGE

DESTROYED MAIN BRIDGE

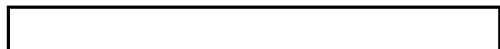
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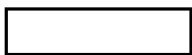
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ITEM OF INTEREST NO. 5: Hanoi/Dong Hoi Rail Line

NAME : Trong Quang Tien RR. Bridge

BE

:



COORDINATES

:

19 37N - 105 42E, WG 740696

PHOTO REFERENCE

:



MAP REFERENCE

:

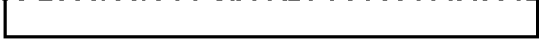
JOG (A) 1501, NE 48-3

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The 3-spans of the deck-girder Trong Quang Tien Railroad Bridge have been destroyed (Figure 18). The abutments remain intact. The multi-span, deck-type, by-pass bridge has been repaired and is serviceable (Figure 19).



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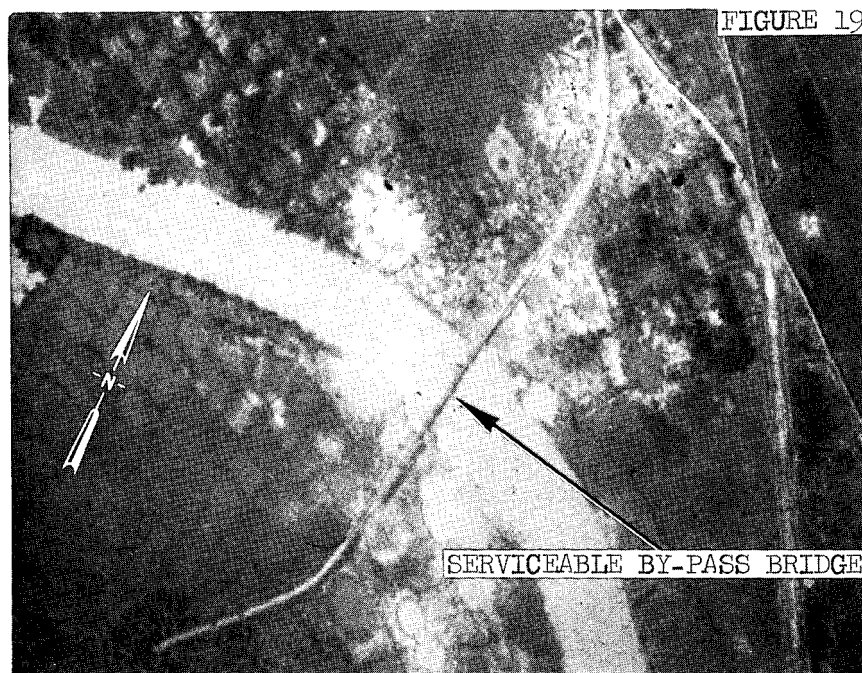


FIGURE 19

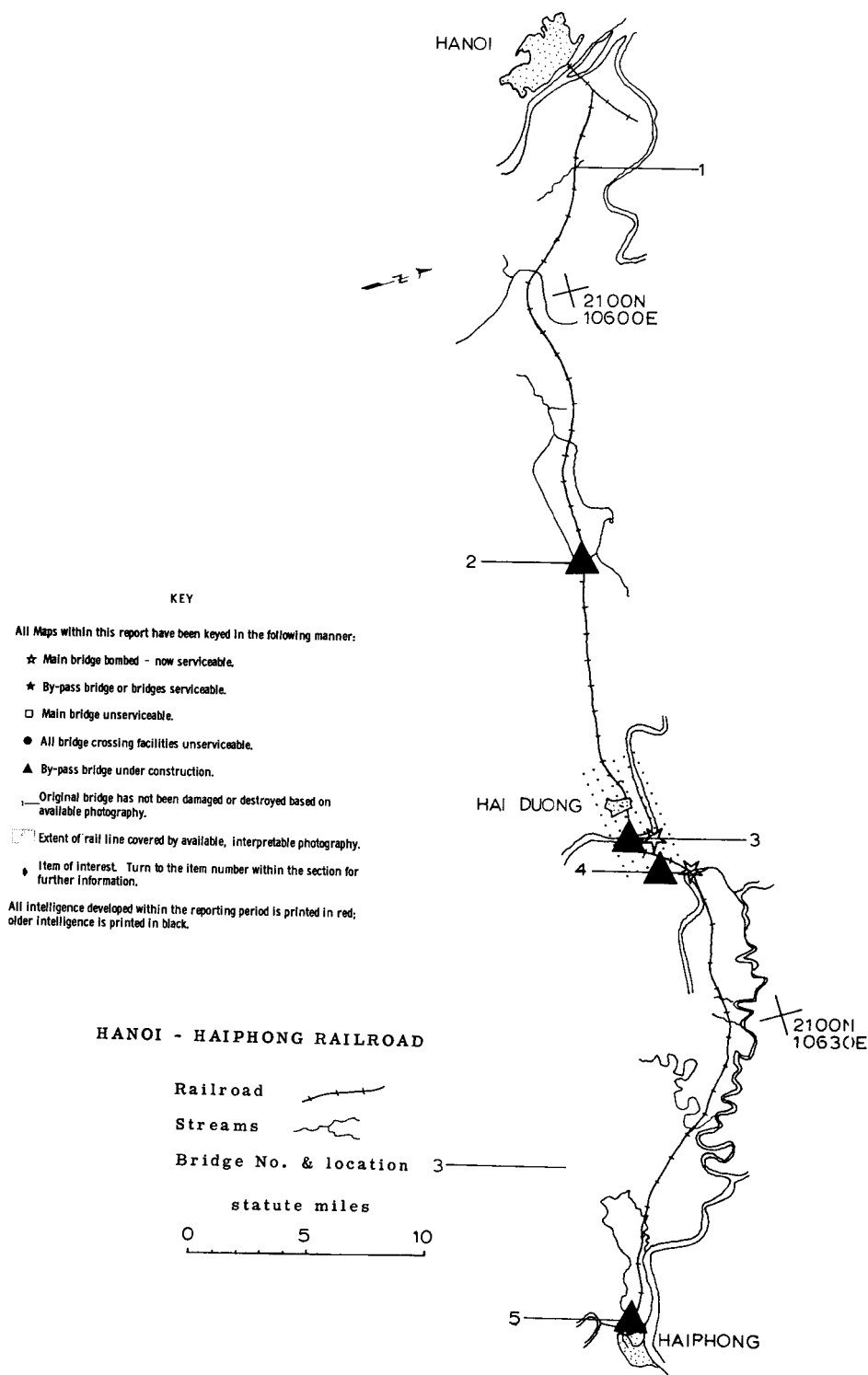
SERVICEABLE BY-PASS BRIDGE

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FIGURE 20
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FIGURE 21

KEY

All Maps within this report have been keyed in the following manner:

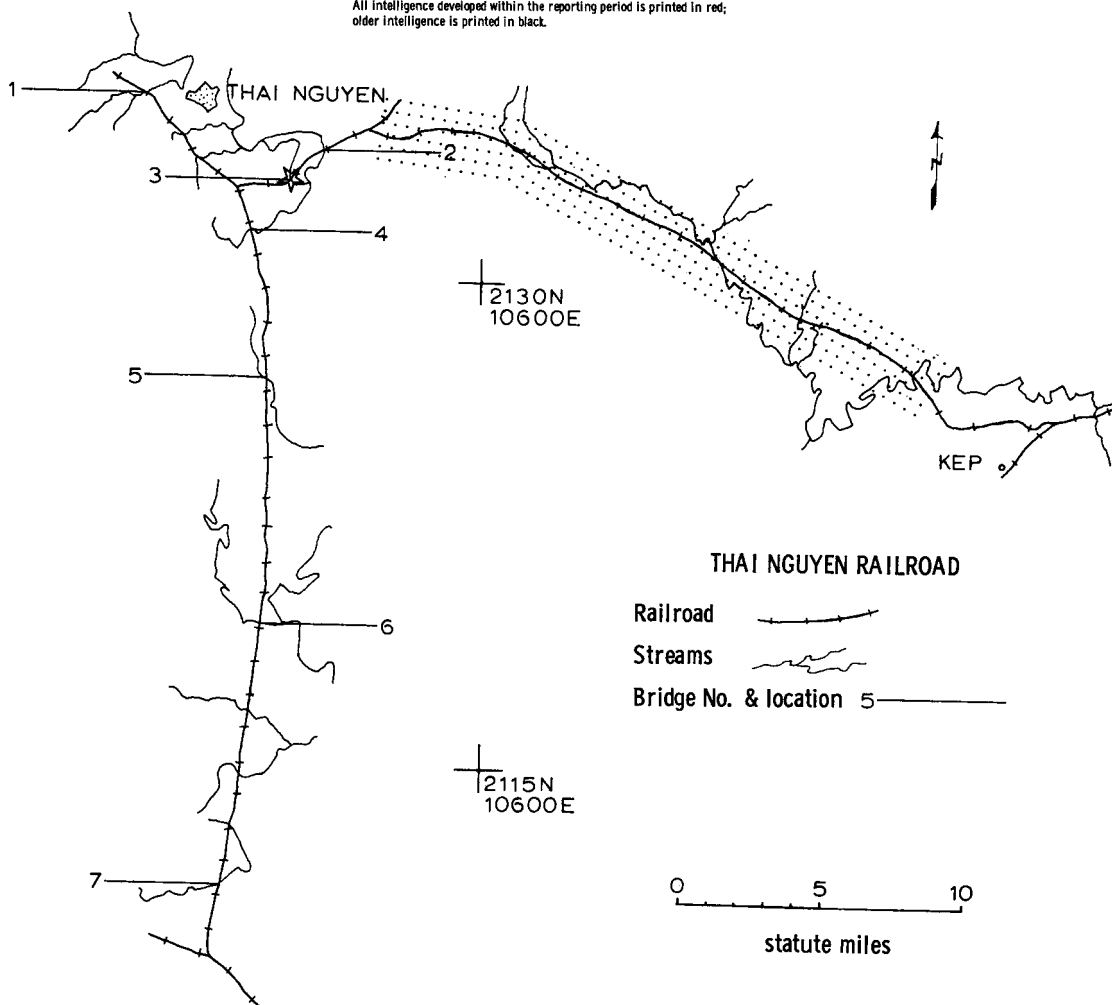
- ☆ Main bridge bombed - now serviceable.
- ★ By-pass bridge or bridges serviceable.
- Main bridge unserviceable.
- All bridge crossing facilities unserviceable.
- ▲ By-pass bridge under construction.

— Original bridge has not been damaged or destroyed based on available photography.

--- Extent of rail line covered by available, interpretable photography.

♦ Item of interest. Turn to the item number within the section for further information.

All intelligence developed within the reporting period is printed in red; older intelligence is printed in black.



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